Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—As much time will be given as is consistent with the collection and statutory requirements.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased tc make some departure in view of the present depression?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Government will not promise to make any departure.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will they look into the matter?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The matter can be looked into.

Prices of paddy and cocoanuts—prevailing rates.

12. Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the prices prevailing in the State now for (1) paddy per Mudra para (2) cocoanuts per 1,000;

(b) the prices that prevailed in the State when the last Revenue Settlement was effected;

(c) whether prices for these commodities have not gone down considerably since the last Revenue Settlement;

(d) what action the Government has taken to compensate the ryots for this heavy fall in prices?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) (1) The price of paddy per Mudra para prevailing in the State ranges from 5½ as. to 7½ as.

(2) The price of cocoanuts per 1,000 ranges at present from Rs. 15 to 25.

(b) The prices that prevailed at the time of the last Land Revenue Settlement ranged between 6 to 10 as. per Mudra para for paddy and between Rs. 28—12—0 and Rs. 60 for 1,000 cocoannts.

(c) Yes; the prices of these commodities have gone down.

(d) The Government have granted liberal remission of assessment due from the ryots besides the granting of a Special Loan of 5 lakhs for distribution on easy terms among them. An Economic Survey has been ordered and its result is being awaited.

Assistant Surgeon's Deputation.

13. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether they have received the reply of the Surgeon-General since replying to question No. 81 on 24th January 1934;

(2) whether they had enquired of any other Government regarding this;

(3) if so, will they be pleased to place all the replies on the table;

(4) whether they have come to any conclusion regarding the matter;

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(5) if so, what and why?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(1) Yes.

(2) No.

(3) Government regret that the report received from the Surgeon-General cannot be published:

(4 and 5) Government have not yet passed final orders on the question.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—What was the trend of the Surgeon-General's opinion?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—It cannot be published.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Has he insisted that foreign qualifications are necessary for the civil surgeon's post?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—What is the practice in British India? Whether they are giving any preference to persons with European qualifications as disclosed by the report?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao—From a reference to the Civil list issued by the Madras Government I find that most of the Civil Surgeons are people who have gone to Europe.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—My question is whether the British Government give preference to those Civil Surgeons with European qualifications against those who have only Indian qualifications?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim—Why cannot the report be published?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—It is confidential.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Has the Chief Medical Officer ascertained the practice obtaining in British India regarding the recruitment of Civil Surgeons?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—No. But the Government have done it.

Mr. P. Raman Menon—May I know what is the practice there?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—The question is practically asking the contents of the Report. It cannot be published.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know the principle which the Government follow in making papers confidential?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Has the Surgeon-General asked the Government to keep his report confidential? (*Laughter*). Or is it the opinion of our Government?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—This is the opinion of our Government.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Sir, on January 24th in answer to question No. 21, it was said that the matter is under correspondence with the Madras Government. If that reply was given then, why should the report be confidential? There is no rea-

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

son to give this reply now. We were asked to expect for the reply and now why should it be confidential?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Then that report was not received.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—What is the delay in passing final orders in the matter?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The question is under consideration. There is no special reason.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Are not the Government aware that in British India they do not give any preference to European qualifications?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I want notice.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Sir, is it a question that deserves 'Notice'. Is not the Government expected to know such things?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—The matter is under consideration of the Government and no final orders have yet been passed. That is only what I can say.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Sir, I wanted to ask some questions on question No. 12?

President.—No, it is over.

Chalakkudi Hospital—accommodation for in-patients.

14. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the number of beds in the Chalakkudi Hospital;

(2) the number of in-patients in the hospital on 3rd Edavam 1109;

(3) whether their attention has been drawn to the fact that patients are lying on cots and ground in a shed near the road exposed to public sight;

(4) whether there are not many buses and cars and carts going every day along the road to the east of the hospital;

(5) whether it is not dangerous that these patients should be inhaling the dust caused by the running of these vehicles;

(6) whether they have received any complaint from the owners of the neighbouring fields regarding the dumping of the night soil in their fields?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(1) 32.

(2) 50.

(3) Yes. Patients have to be admitted into the shed for want of sufficient space in the main block.

(4) Yes.

(5) Only such cases that are harmless and mild, are allowed to lie on the verandah facing the road.

(6) No.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly